



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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Chair, Zoning Committee

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**COUNCILMEMBER DJOU:
RETRIBUTION FOR DISCUSSING LANDFILL SELECTION WITH THE PRESS**

In the new organization of the City Council posted yesterday, Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki to Hawaii Kai) will be removed as Zoning Committee Chair and stripped of important committee assignments as punishment for being an outspoken critic of the council's landfill site selection process.

"Throughout my career in public office, I have always spoken my mind and I have always answered questions from the press honestly. I acted no differently when the ludicrous suggestion of placing the city's next landfill at Campbell Industrial Park and later Koko Crater arose. Now, I am now being punished for being so outspoken. Led by Rod Tam, many of my colleagues on the council want to put a muzzle on me. Stripping me of major committee assignments, however, simply will not keep me quiet. I will continue to be a forceful advocate of what I think is right and this reorganization of the council only further emboldens me to fight what is wrong with our government."

Last Christmas Eve the City Council, over the objection of Councilmember Djou, voted to increase the vehicle tax by the largest margin in city history. This Christmas Eve, again over the objection of Djou, the council is poised to foist upon the public a new organization designed to muzzle dissent and minimize discussion with the media of irresponsible public policies.

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